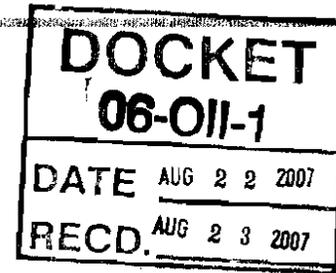


Docket Optical System - Comments c/o WWE

From:
To:
Date: 8/22/2007 6:06 PM
Subject: Comments c/o WWE
Attachments:



WWE is a consulting company to a number of entities operating in the San Gorgonio Pass, representing a combined total of 43 MW's of wind energy. One of the company's also built and sold an additional 102.49 MW's of wind power in the pass, and is also developing a 150 MW project, with future projects in the pipeline. It is my concern, as well as the entities with which I consult, that these guidelines, or should I say State rules (because we all know it is not voluntary), is another attack at the wind industry to pander to the overly sensitive environmental lobby, a group who should applaud and support wind energy development.

Wind development is already overly burdened by environmental review, state agency consultation, forced studies and public input for development on private land. CEQA already dictates the level of review needed for each project, and if anything, needs to be streamlined, to further develop projects. The old saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Well, the county of Riverside has been successfully operating wind projects for decades without state influence, and does not need further meddling in local permitting and decision making abilities.

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

Development of Statewide Guidelines for)	Docket No. 06-OII-1
Reducing Wildlife Impacts from Wind)	Developing Statewide
Energy Development)	Avian Guidelines

**COMMENTS OF Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc.
ON JULY 2007 COMMITTEE DRAFT GUIDELINES**

Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc. wishes to provide these brief comments on the July 2007 Committee Draft report, "California Guidelines for Reducing Impacts to Birds and Bats from Wind Energy Development" ("Committee Draft"). Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc. is actively involved in the development of wind energy projects in California and would be directly affected by these Guidelines. For the reasons stated in the August 22, 2007, comments submitted by the California Wind Energy Association, of which Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc. is an active member, we oppose the Committee Draft and urge the Commission to take the time necessary to revise Committee Draft to ensure that it does not unjustifiably harm wind energy development in California.

WWE is a consulting company to a number of entities operating in the San Geronio Pass, representing a combined total of 43 MW's of wind energy. One of the company's also built and sold an additional 102.49 MW's of wind power in the pass, and is also developing a 150 MW project, with future projects in the pipeline. It is my concern, as well as the entities with which I consult, that these guidelines, or should I say State rules (because we all know it is not voluntary), is another attack at the wind industry to pander to the overly sensitive environmental lobby, a group who should applaud and support wind energy development.

Wind development is already overly burdened by environmental review, state agency consultation, forced studies and public input for development on private land. CEQA already dictates the level of review needed for each project, and if anything, needs to be streamlined, to further facilitate the development of projects. The old saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Well, the county of Riverside has been successfully operating wind projects for decades without state influence, and does not need further meddling in local permitting and decision making abilities.

Riverside County should be exempt from these guidelines due to the lack of avian and bat mortality issues proven by multiple studies performed over two (2) decades.

The Committee Draft recommends practices that go well beyond current industry practices and what is required under CEQA to identify and mitigate all significant environmental impacts caused by a project development. Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc. is committed to sound environmental stewardship, but imposing excessive burdens on all wind energy projects, which are needed to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and the associated global warming threat, is counter-productive.

Respectfully submitted,

Whitewater Wind Energy, Inc.
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August 22, 2007